

(b) the number and names of historical places where tourist arrangements are to be made; and

(c) the amount to be spent on tourism during the Annual Plan 1968-69 and places to be developed ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). A list of places of historical importance where tourist facilities have been provided during the Second and Third Plans and are proposed in the Fourth Plan is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT 944/68.*]

(c) During the Annual Plan for 1968-69 an amount of Rs. 3 crores has been earmarked for tourism —Rs. 1.47 crores for the Department of Tourism and remaining Rs. 1.53 crores for the India Tourism Development Corporation. The expenditure of Rs. 1.47 crores is ear-marked for schemes at Kovalam, Gulmurg, Nehru Loka (Mysore), Goa, Delhi, Gobindsagar (Bhakra Dam), Agra, Ajanta-Ellora, Khajuraho, Jaipur-Bharatpur-Deeg and Varanasi; it also includes an amount of Rs. 36.25 lakhs for grant of subsidies to State Governments for tourism schemes under Part II of the Annual Plan.

Central Leather Research Institute, Madras

7727. SHRI MAHANT DIGVIJAI NATH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras have offered 40 paise each for a rat skin to the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, recently ;

(b) If so, the expected commercial use of the skin ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that they have found out the use of mouse-meat ;

(d) whether the above institute have also approached the Central Government in this regard ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the expected earnings from the mice-skins and meat ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN): (a) The institute offered 40 paise each for bandicoot rat

skins (Malabar Rat or Pig Rat) to the Haffkine Institute, Bombay.

(b) The skin of bandicoot rat, when finished into leathers, has been found suitable for making baby shoe upper, purses, wallets and watch straps. The investigation is still in progress.

(c) No study has yet been taken up by the Institute for utilisation of the meat content of bandicoot carcasses.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of replies to parts (b) and (c) of the question.

Sethusamudram Project

7728. SHRI G. KUCHELAR: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have not provided any grant or loan for Sethusamudram Scheme, while the State of Tamil Nadu is forced to carry on the scheme with an estimate of Rs. 35.4 crores ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO):

(a) and (b). The Central Government have financed the entire cost of detailed investigations for the Sethusamudram Scheme estimated at about Rs. 37 lakhs. These investigations which were entrusted to the State Government of Madras have been completed and the report thereon is expected to be received shortly.

Arrest of Pakistanis in Bhuj

7729. SHRI C. CHITTYBABU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 60 Pakistani intruders were arrested on the 20th March, 1968 in Bhuj ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.